

NOMINATION FORM  
for the  
NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES, NATIONAL PARKS SERVICE

<b>1. NAME</b>				
COMMON: San Mar Orphanage				
AND/OR HISTORIC: San Mar				
<b>2. LOCATION</b>				
STREET AND NUMBER: San Mar, Route 2 (Maryland Route 66)				
CITY OR TOWN: Boonsboro				
STATE Maryland		COUNTY: Washington		
<b>3. CLASSIFICATION</b>				
<b>CATEGORY</b> (Check One)		<b>OWNERSHIP</b>		<b>STATUS</b>
<input type="checkbox"/> District <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Structure <input type="checkbox"/> Object		<input type="checkbox"/> Public <input type="checkbox"/> Private <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Both		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress
		Public Acquisition: <input type="checkbox"/> In Process <input type="checkbox"/> Being Considered		<b>ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC</b> Yes: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Restricted <input type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted <input type="checkbox"/> No
PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)				
<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural <input type="checkbox"/> Government <input type="checkbox"/> Park <input type="checkbox"/> Commercial <input type="checkbox"/> Industrial <input type="checkbox"/> Private Residence <input type="checkbox"/> Educational <input type="checkbox"/> Military <input type="checkbox"/> Religious <input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment <input type="checkbox"/> Museum <input type="checkbox"/> Scientific				
<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation <input type="checkbox"/> Comments <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) children's home				
<b>4. OWNER OF PROPERTY</b>				
OWNER'S NAME: Washington County Home for Orphan and Friendless Children				
STREET AND NUMBER: Route 2				
CITY OR TOWN: Boonsboro		STATE: Maryland		
<b>5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION</b>				
COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC: Washington County Court House				
STREET AND NUMBER: West Washington Street				
CITY OR TOWN: Hagerstown		STATE: Maryland		
Title Reference of Current Deed (Book & Pg. #): 170/257				
<b>6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS</b>				
TITLE OF SURVEY:				
DATE OF SURVEY: <input type="checkbox"/> Federal <input type="checkbox"/> State <input type="checkbox"/> County <input type="checkbox"/> Local				
DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:				
STREET AND NUMBER:				
CITY OR TOWN:		STATE:		

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

## 7. DESCRIPTION

CONDITION	(Check One)					
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> Good	<input type="checkbox"/> Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> Ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> Unexposed
	(Check One)			(Check One)		
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Altered	<input type="checkbox"/> Unaltered	<input type="checkbox"/> Moved	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Original Site		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (If known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Washington County Home for Orphan and Friendless Children is located at San Mar, about 2-1/2 miles north of Boonsboro in Washington County, Maryland. It is situated near a spring and small run, on the west side of Maryland Route 66.

Several buildings are present on the property including the main building, constructed from 1925-27 and a large brick farmhouse built by Peter Fahrney, Jr., in 1848. A stone and frame springhouse is also present.

The orphanage is a large 2-1/2 story brick building set on cut stone foundations. Bricks are laid in all stretcher bond with projecting quoins. The windows are topped with rusticated stone lintels. The hip roof is broken by dormers and by the projecting pediment of the entrance pavilion. Wide cornice molding and a frieze finish the neoclassically inspired structure.

The farmhouse on the property is a two-story brick dwelling painted red with white trim. It is about seven bays in length, however, its enclosed double porch conceals the number of openings in the brick wall within.

The bricks of the front or south elevation of the house are laid in flemish bond, while other walls display common bond brickwork. The walls are set on coursed limestone foundations. Flat brick arches are present over the windows. Set in the east gable end of the building is a date stone, inscribed with the year 1848 and the name of Peter Fahrney.

Window openings contain six-light over single-pane double-hung sashes. Their narrow framing is finished with a bead. Small four-light openings are located in the gables to light the attic. Two pairs of dormers with pedimented roofs are present.

The main entrance is located in the second bay from the west end of the house. The door is topped by a wide transom and flanked by matching sidelights inside paneled jambs. A modern entrance leads into the enclosed porch. Rear entrances are located behind an enclosed one story porch.

A Victorian period flat roof entrance porch protects the entrance bay.

The roof is of sheet metal and terminates with a plain barge, several inches beyond the gable walls. Brick chimneys with corbeled caps are located inside each gable end and at the interior of the house. The eaves boxing is finished with a simple band of cornice molding.

The house is built directly over a spring.

The buildings are in excellent condition and stand on a 57-acre tract.

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**8. SIGNIFICANCE**

**PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)**

- ☐ Columbus      ☐ 16th Century      ☐ 18th Century      ☒ 20th Century  
☐ 15th Century      ☐ 17th Century      ☒ 19th Century

**SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known)** house dated 1848, main building 1925-27

**AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)**

- |  |   |   |  |
|--|---|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal              | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Education | <input type="checkbox"/> Political                | <input type="checkbox"/> Urban Planning  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Prehistoric             | <input type="checkbox"/> Engineering          | <input type="checkbox"/> Religion/Phi-            | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Historic                | <input type="checkbox"/> Industry             | losophy   |  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture             | <input type="checkbox"/> Invention            | <input type="checkbox"/> Science                  |  |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape            | <input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture                |  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Art                     | <input type="checkbox"/> Architecture         | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Social/Human- |  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Commerce                | <input type="checkbox"/> Literature           | itarian   |  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communications          | <input type="checkbox"/> Military             | <input type="checkbox"/> Theater                  |  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation            | <input type="checkbox"/> Music                | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation           |  |

**STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE**

The San Mar orphanage is significant for its architecture and historically for its contribution to the education of orphans as a "Mechanical Institute" and as a social/humanitarian institution.

Peter Gray, who purchased the property from the Fahrney-Keedy Memorial Home in 1906, directed in his will (Liber K, Folio 517) that the "Peter Gray Orphans Home and Mechanical Institute" be established on his farm. Although Gray died in 1910, the deed was formally transferred to the Home on December 29, 1924. The original purpose of the Home was to teach a trade to orphaned boys as well as to provide shelter.

Prior to the Gray ownership the property had been in the Fahrney family for approximately a century. It was part of a farm owned by Doctor Peter Fahrney who began practicing medicine in the San Mar area around 1800. Doctor Fahrney's son, Peter, Jr., built the brick house in 1848. Important for its architecture, it is a dated example of mid-19th century construction and provides a record of Western Maryland's rural architecture of the period. Houses of five or more bays in length with recessed double porches are a significant architectural group in the area. Most date from the mid 19th century.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

## 9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Williams, Thomas J. C., History of Washington County, Hagerstown:  
Mail Publishing Company, 1906. (Information about Peter Gray  
and Fahrney family.)

## 10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY			O R	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES		
CORNER	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE		LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	
	Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds		Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds	
NW	° ' "	° ' "		° ' "	° ' "	
NE	° ' "	° ' "		° ' "	° ' "	
SE	° ' "	° ' "		° ' "	° ' "	
SW	° ' "	° ' "		° ' "	° ' "	

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: 57 acres

Acreage Justification:

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE:		COUNTY:	
STATE:		COUNTY:	
STATE:		COUNTY:	
STATE:		COUNTY:	

## 11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE: Paula Stoner Dickey, Consultant		DATE
ORGANIZATION Washington County Historic Sites Survey		April, 1974
STREET AND NUMBER: Court House Annex		
CITY OR TOWN: Hagerstown	STATE Maryland	

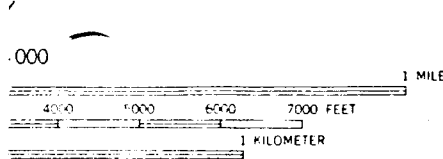
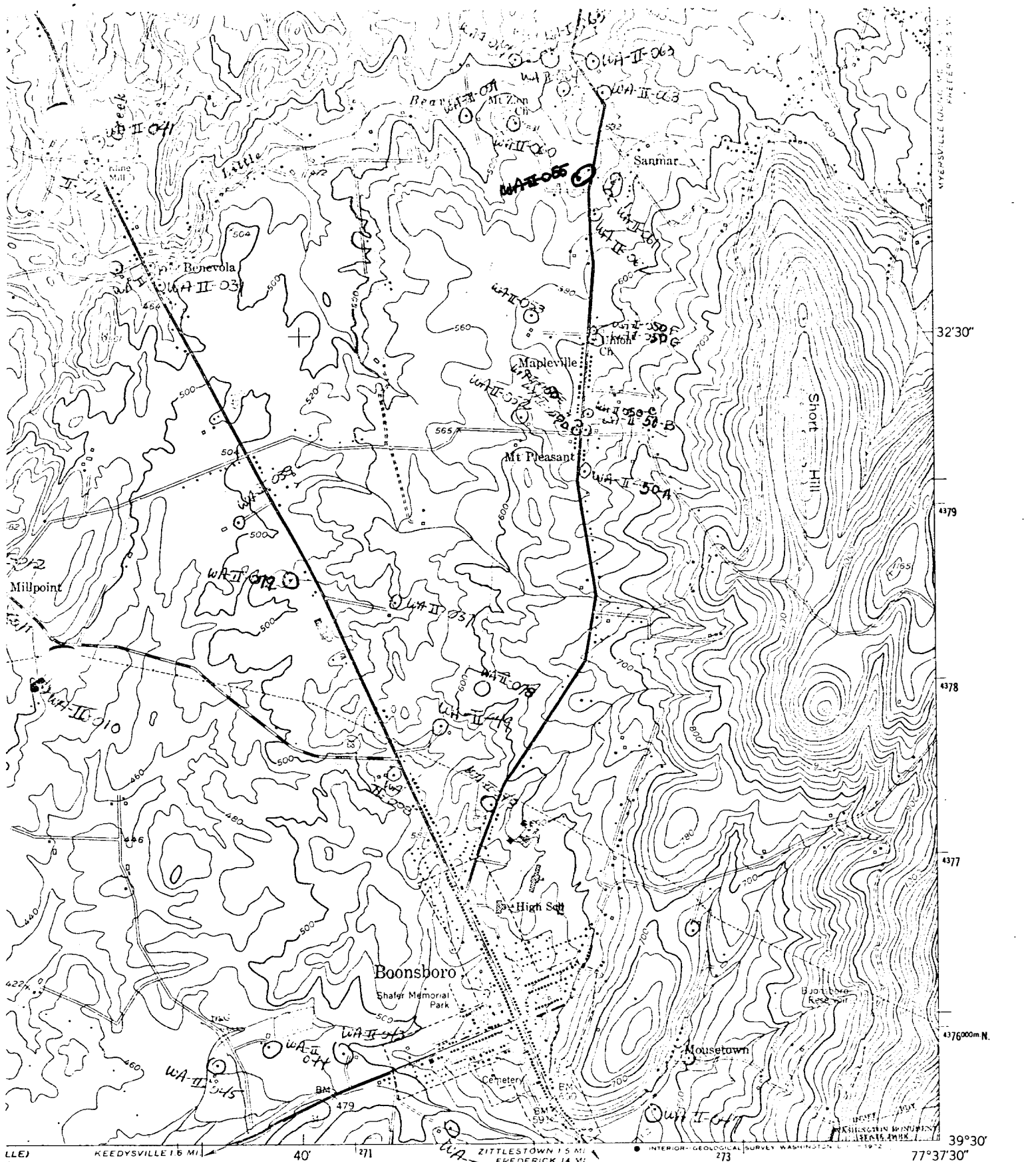
## 12. State Liaison Officer Review: (Office Use Only)

Significance of this property is:

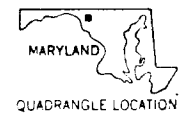
National ☐ State ☐ Local ☐

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

SEE INSTRUCTIONS



AL 20 FEET  
EA LEVEL



ROAD CLASSIFICATION			
Heavy-duty	4 LANE 2 LANE	Light-duty	2 LANE 2 LANE
Medium-duty	4 LANE 2 LANE	Unimproved dirt	=====
	U. S. Route	State Route	Interstate Route

FUNKSTOWN, MD.  
SW/4 HAGERSTOWN 15' QUADRANGLE  
N 3930—W 7737.5/7.5



Wm. H. Dickey

56

11/12/11 1912

PAULA STONER DICKEY  
CONSULTANT, WASHINGTON CO.  
HISTORICAL SITES SURVEY





10/17/77

10/17/77

10/17/77

ROBERT STONE DICKEY  
CONSULTANT, WASHINGTON CO.  
HISTORICAL SITES SURVEY



94-11-161  
1991-1992  
1993-1994

PAULA STONER DICKEY  
CONSULTANT, WASHINGTON CO.  
HISTORICAL SITES SURVEY



10/11/1962

10/11/1962

10/11/1962

CONSULTANT, WASHINGTON CO.  
HISTORICAL SITES SURVEY



11/23/2011

1/23/2011

1/23/2011

JOHN D. BERRY  
CONSULTANT, WASHINGTON CO  
HISTORICAL SITES SURVEY